

Chrono

Approved For Release 2006/09/25 : CIA-RDP72-00337R000100120052-8

28 FEB FEB 1969

The Honorable Strom Thurmond
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

My dear Senator Thurmond:

This is in response to your letter of 17 February 1969 concerning the composition of internal working groups and inter-agency committees in which this Agency has participated on Non-Proliferation Treaty questions.

As you know the Director of Central Intelligence and the Central Intelligence Agency are not responsible for making or advocating policy. My responsibility is to provide factual information and intelligence to the President and members of the Executive Branch who have policymaking responsibilities. The Agency's involvement with questions relating to the Non-Proliferation Treaty has, therefore, been to provide information on foreign attitudes toward the Treaty, the ability and intention of foreign countries to produce nuclear weapons, and the capability of the intelligence community to monitor a non-proliferation treaty. This role applies equally to myself and all members of the Agency.

In accordance with my responsibilities, and within the framework outlined above, I have participated in the work of the National Security Council, the former Senior Interdepartmental Group, and the Committee of Principals.

The Agency, of course, does not participate in the process of negotiating treaties.

Approved For Release 2006/09/25 : CIA-RDP72-00337R000100120052-8

No individual or group of officers of the Agency is assigned specific responsibility for dealing with the Non-Proliferation Treaty as such. However, in support of my function as the principal intelligence advisor to the President and the National Security Council, a large number of Agency officers are required to keep me advised with regard to all developments and anticipated actions in foreign countries, including those which might bear on this Treaty.

If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

Richard Helms
Director

OLC:JGO:kef (27 Feb 1969)

Distribution:

Original - Addressee

- 1 - DCI
- 1 - DDCI
- 1 - ER
- 1 - DD/I
- 1 - DD/S&T
- 1 - ONE
- 1 - OLC w/Basic